

## Grant's Policy.

Since the election the papers generally have had a great deal to say about the probable character of General Grant's administration. Everything possible for him, in the way of governmental policy, has been predicted. But these foretellings have, as a rule, no more substantial ground than the hopes or fears of their authors.

We do not believe any one knows what the new President's plans or intentions are. He is evidently a man of his own head, and will most probably, as he has intimated, be governed by circumstances, reserving to himself the right of judging what those circumstances require.

The people do not know that he is in favor of or opposed to the reconstruction laws; that he is for or against negro suffrage; or how far, if at all, his conscience will allow him to go "outside of the Constitution" after he has taken the oath of office.

They do know that he is a man of indomitable will; that his personal courage is beyond controversy; that he is possessed of good administrative talent; and, unless his civil differs widely from his military record, that whatever his purpose is will be accomplished. And there is nothing in his conduct, particularly since the election, to justify the opinion that he is a man of bad purposes.

We rejoice that General Grant was elected by a decisive majority, for as has been well said, no position can be worse than an equivocal one. Much as we desired the election of Mr. Seymour, we consider his defeat by an overwhelming vote as preferable to his success by a small majority. This is no time for uncertain decisions, and as the choice has been made it is well that it was a definite one.

No matter what General Grant's course as President may be, no one can claim his election as an endorsement by the people of the radical policy. It is more than probable he would have been elected with as much ease on the Democratic ticket, and it is by no means certain that he would have refused the Democratic nomination if the other party had failed to select him as their candidate. It is a well-known fact that thousands of Northern Democrats, or at least of men strongly opposed to the leading measures of radicalism, voted for General Grant. They did not vote for him as the representative of a party. They had been led to believe, and perhaps with good reason, that the election of a man untrammelled by party pledges and of tried devotion to the cause of the Union, would of itself be a guarantee of returning peace and good government. Let us of the South not only hope that their anticipations may be realized, but do all in our power to render the result more easily attainable.

The *Courier de Etats Unis*, about the most able and influential French paper published in this country, has some remarks on this subject which at least may be called very sensible guessing. That paper, in a late issue, says: "We don't believe the Radical party will find in General Grant the docile tool to execute their revolutionary schemes. And we think the Democrats flatter themselves with a vain hope, if they expect him to co-operate in a reaction to undo all that has been done. We do not believe the reconstruction acts will be annulled, but will be modified so as to be made acceptable to those not yet subjected to them, and endurable to them on whom the yoke is already imposed. We do not think the President and Congress will ever withdraw franchise from the negroes, absurd as it is; but all test oaths and restrictions on the whites will be abolished. The fact is Grant will do exactly what Seymour would have done, and Seymour would have done exactly what Grant will do. Circumstances are stronger than individuals, and a man entrusted with the government of a country must consult the best interests of the people. His administration, if wise, will give satisfaction to the ultras of neither party, but will gain the sympathies of an immense majority of the population, and constitute the real National Party."

## Impartial Suffrage.

From all reports an active effort will be made, soon after the assembling of Congress, to carry through that body the preliminary measures for so amending the Constitution as to establish impartial suffrage throughout the country. This action will receive the support of many who have hitherto strenuously opposed negro suffrage. As the fact becomes more patent that there is no earthly probability for some years, at least, of the withdrawal of

the right of franchise from the negroes of the South, and almost as little that the right will be restored to the disfranchised whites by the States which have deprived them of it, such Congressional action in the matter as we have referred to seems to be the only solution of the troubles and difficulties under which these States are suffering.

Besides, the right of the negro to vote in the States recently, and to be, reconstructed, has been preposterously enforced by Congress through the instrumentality of special acts. There is no hope that Congress will recede from the reconstruction acts, unconstitutional as they are believed to be by thousands of our most intelligent citizens North and South; and there can be no real peace in the country so long as that body presumes to dictate a policy for the States of one section, while those of another section are allowed to decide similar matter for themselves.

Under the operation of an impartial suffrage-law there will not be the slightest foundation for any fear of the predominance of the black race in the South. Supposing the equal intelligence of the black with the white race, a proposition which we imagine no one seriously and honestly entertains, the former, whenever they array themselves against the latter, in whatever way, will have to go the wall for want of numbers.

Again, under the most adverse circumstances, in spite of every effort to arouse and keep alive the animosity of the negroes of the South against their white neighbors and late owners, the result of the recent election has demonstrated that they are rapidly learning how grossly they have been deceived, and indicates an active retracing of the fatal steps they were taking. By the time that the nullification of the reconstruction laws becomes a possibility, the negro vote of the South may have been so educated as to prove a powerful auxiliary to the prosperity of the States in which they live.

We do not believe an amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing for impartial suffrage throughout the country would fall through for want of the proper ratification. The universal amnesty and universal suffrage party in the North is a large one, and there are doubtless thousands who have hitherto opposed negro suffrage in their respective States who would be glad to see the whole question forever settled by a Constitutional amendment.

## Is He an Elector?

The question has been sprung since Senator Cate's unsuccessful effort to oust Speaker Senter from his position, whether the latter gentleman is eligible to the office of elector. The fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States provides that no person shall be an elector of President or Vice President, who after taking an oath to support said Constitution gave aid and comfort to the rebellion. Mr. Senter was a member of the State Legislature previous to the war, and afterwards a member of the "rebel legislature." Some of his friends claim that he was always a Union man, though it is easy to establish that he gave a considerable amount of "aid and comfort to the rebellion." He is therefore clearly ineligible, and his election amounts to nothing. As the Code makes no provision for a vacancy, we can not tell how the rest of the gentlemen elected will go to work to cast the vote of the State.

## The Next Congress.

The Senate when full, including the Southern Senators, has 76 members. In the next Senate there will be 70, if Virginia, Mississippi and Texas remain unrepresented. Of these about four-fifths will be Republicans.

The House of Representatives consists of 243 members when full. Deducting 17 for three States above named, there will be 226 members. Of these 193 are from States that did not secede, and Tennessee. In the present Congress, of this last number 145 are Republicans and 48 are Democrats—three Republicans to one Democrat. To the next Congress there are said to be elected in the same States 100 Republicans and 83 Democrats.

## The Legislature.

Such of the proceedings of the Legislature as have come under our notice since the last issue of this paper have been almost devoid of interest to the people of this section. It is probable that an appropriation of \$500,000 each has been voted to the Knoxville and Kentucky and Knoxville and Charleston Railroads, but as we receive no daily Nashville paper we are unable to say whether the bill passed both Houses. Secretary of State Fletcher has been re-elected.

Mr. J. B. Rust, of Davidson, has been elected State Treasurer, in the place of John R. Henry, who recently resigned.

## New England.

Boston, Nov. 19.—There was a large attendance on the re-assembling of the Women's Rights Convention.

Rev. James Freeman Clark advocated educating the sexes together.

Addresses were made by Chas. Barnard, Frederick Douglass and Hon. W. Frank Bird, expressive of sympathy in the movement to establish suffrage for women.

Resolutions presented and laid over for discussion. The following embraces the general scope:

**Resolved**, That we invite the Republican party to drop the watchword of "manhood suffrage," and the Democratic party to abandon its motto a "white man's Government," and unite in an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, extending suffrage to all men and women—as the inalienable birthright of every American citizen.

W. Lloyd Garrison and Senator Wilson spoke and were warmly welcomed. Senator Wilson expressed himself strongly in favor of female suffrage, but he did not want that or any other question put forward till the Southern question was fully settled.

He had no doubt Congress would authorize colored men to vote in every State, but as some good men doubted it, it was proposed, the coming winter, to put forward an amendment to the Constitution enforcing the political dogma that a colored man has the right to vote in every State. With twenty-six Legislatures in our favor and only nine against us, our success was probable.

That done, the female suffrage question would have a clear way and be aided by the success of the other, and it would stand a better chance of a speedy triumph, because men could not feel prejudiced against their own sisters, lovers, mothers, and friends, as they had against the colored men heretofore. Make the colored suffrage sure first before taking another step.

## From Washington.

Special Telegraphic Correspondence of the Louisville Courier-Journal.]

The report by cable that a draft for one million pounds sterling had been paid the Russian Government by Baring Bros. on account of the Alaska purchase by the United States, gives rise to some inquiry as to why the draft was for only five million dollars, whereas the purchase money was seven million two hundred thousand dollars. A story has been afloat here for a month or two that this addition of two million and upward swells the bank accounts of various high officials, editors, correspondents, lobbyists and loafers, who are supposed to have aided in stifling the opposition of the House of Representatives to that purchase. It has been said that a list of all who were paid their price is in existence, in which several prominent journals are put down at \$20,000 each, and lesser lights in proportion; but the story is said to be mere gossip, and malicious at that. Nevertheless the fact that only five millions reached his Czarship has a suspicious look.

## OCEAN POSTAGE.

There is pretty good authority for stating that Anthony Trollope, who was out here making the postal arrangement between the United States and Great Britain, has very strongly urged upon the latter the expediency of a further reduction in the ocean postage, and that this matter at present is under favorable discussion.

## THE REVENUE.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue is well pleased with the working of the new revenue law under which the receipts duly answer his expectations, which were in accordance with those entertained by the Finance and Ways and Means committees. From present indications the internal revenue receipts for the coming year will not be far from one hundred and fifty millions.

## APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISORS.

The Supervisorship business progresses. McCulloch and Rollins' revenue mill is grinding out one or more every day. Dutcher, who was confirmed to-day for Southern New York, which embraces that city and Brooklyn, has the fattest office in America, or perhaps in the world. Nominally, his salary is \$3,000, but a million per year profits is considered a low estimate by those who were applicants for the same place. It is also reported that the name of Mr. Worthington, Supervisor of Southern Ohio, is under consideration. Supervisors have been divided into two classes, all of whom receive \$1,500 per annum, except Marr, at St. Louis; Fulton, in Baltimore; Nash, in Montgomery; and Barbour, in Boston, each of whom will receive \$2,000 per annum.

## THE OUTGOING CABINET.

The several members of the Cabinet are not only busy in the preparation of their annual reports, but also in perfecting their arrangements for private life. Secretary McCulloch goes to Europe to take charge of a branch of Jay Cook's bank, to be established in London. Mr. Seward having abandoned all hope of being retained as premier under the next administration, retires to Auburn on the 4th of March next, to enjoy his *otium cum dignitate*. Secretary Welles says he shall welcome the day that relieves him of the Navy Department and allows his return to the land of steady habits. Secretary Browning returns to his home in Illinois immediately upon his retirement, and will not hold over the thirty days allowed him under the civil tenure bill. Postmaster General Radall has temporarily engaged the furnished residence of Perry Fuller, in the absence of that gentleman, and Attorney General Evarts has an eye to the Senatorial succession in New York.

## THE DAVIS TRIAL.

Many inquiries are made as to whether

Mr. Davis will have to appear before the United States Circuit Court on the fourth Monday of this month. Such is the condition of his recognition, but it is by no means certain that he will personally appear. If Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Evarts, who represent respectively the accused and the Government, deem his personal appearance necessary, it is agreed that he shall be informed by telegram over the cable.

## THE ALABAMA CLAIMS NEGOTIATIONS.

President Johnson, expresses astonishment at the amount of paper and ink wasted upon speculations over what Minister Johnson will or will not do in England regarding the Alabama claims and other questions at issue. He remarked to a gentleman yesterday that it seemed to be forgotten that Mr. Johnson went to England under instructions from his Government, and that he is not there to pursue any "after dinner" impulses, even if he were so disposed. The President expresses entire confidence in the prudence and ability of our Minister, and doubts not he will strictly follow out his letter of instructions, regardless of British dinners and newspaper paragraphs.

## Cuba.

New York, Nov. 19.—The Herald's Havana special says the insurgents hold all the country from Puerto Principe to Santiago de Cuba, except Nuevas, Jibara, Baracoa, as well as the railroad rolling stock, but all communication from these ports are cut off. The government troops have met with severe reverses in the interior, and in consequence they keep in the towns and dare not sally out. Arms from the United States for the government troops were captured on a train by the insurgents on the 9th instant. The latter threaten to burn the estates of all Cubans who offer to aid the government.

The Governor of Puerto Principe is entrenched with the archives in a convent. The young students have left the place and joined the insurgents. The latter hold Manzanillo, we are now informed, and shoot all whom they catch pillaging. Later advices from Puerto Principe state that the insurgent forces are reported as numbering ten thousand men. This includes the wealthy classes, who freely risk their all for the cause. There was a force of eleven hundred troops in the place, and they were barricading the streets and squares in expectation of an attack from the insurgents.

The latter were only three miles distant from the town, and skirmishes were frequent. All the Cubans were suspected, and many of the wealthy citizens were arrested.

The insurgent organization is complete in every respect. Accounts from Santiago de Cuba to the 6th inst. report that the rebels were within four miles of that place, and in full force. A hundred families went to Jamaica by the French mail steamer.

Loud cries for American aid are heard in all parts. In all the cities of the coast the confusion is immense.

## Tennessee Legislature.

## SENATE.

Nashville, Nov. 18.—Speaker Senter in the Chair and twenty-one members present.

Mr. Lyle offered a memorial signed by many citizens living in Montgomery county, praying for relief from the onerous laws restricting the right of suffrage in the State, by which a majority of the white citizens are now disfranchised. They also ask that such necessary steps should be taken in regard to the matter as shall result in established universal suffrage in the State.

The petition was received and referred to the Committee on the Constitution.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. Eckle: A bill to increase the salary of the Governor and Supreme Judges of the State of Tennessee. Passed first reading and referred to the Committee on Finance.

No. 286: Bill to amend an act incorporating the Tennessee and Pacific Railroad Company. On motion of Mr. Aldridge, the bill was referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

No. 291: Bill for changing the time of holding the Circuit Court in Roane county. Passed.

Mr. Lindsley moved to take up Senate bill No. 272, in regard to the relief of Tax payers. The Judiciary Committee reported the following bill in lieu and recommended its passage:

An Act to relieve the Tax payers of Tennessee of the Tax penalty.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That the tax payers of this State shall have to the first day of January, 1869, to pay their taxes, and no penalty shall be attached for non payment of any taxes now due, up to that time, and that all taxes paid within that time shall be exempt from any and all penalties whatsoever.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That this act take effect from and after its passage. Passed three readings, and transmitted to the other House.

No. 267: An act for the benefit of unfinished railroads, providing for the issuance of State bonds to railroads, as follows: Knoxville & Kentucky, \$900,000; Knoxville & Carolina, \$700,000; Cincinnati & Cumberland Gap, \$200,000; Southwestern, \$500,000.

Mr. Parker offered a bill in lieu, changing the amounts, to be appropriated as follows: Knoxville & Kentucky, \$300,000; Knoxville & Charleston, \$500,000; Cincinnati & Cumberland Gap, \$300,000, and the Southwestern \$500,000. It also provides that bonds need not be issued until a majority of the Directors certify to the amount needed at different times.

Mr. Smith moved to amend the bill by adding \$300,000 to the Huntington branch of the Nashville and Northwestern Railroad.

The amendment was adopted, and the bill, after some little discussion, passed its second reading.

## HOUSE.

The House met at 10 a. m., Speaker Richards in the Chair and sixty-nine members present.

## NEW BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. Baker: Bill granting aid to the Rogersville and Little War Gap Turnpike Company. Passed first reading and referred to Committee on Internal Improvements.

By Mr. Bosson: Bill regulating the number of directors of the several railroads of the State; empowering the railroad companies to reduce the number of directors to six by a majority vote of the stockholders. Passed first reading and referred to Committee on Internal Improvements.

By Mr. Hammer: Joint resolution that the two Houses meet in convention at three o'clock Thursday afternoon to elect a Treasurer and Secretary of State. Adopted.

By Mr. Prosser: Bill increasing the pay of Supreme Court Judges to \$5,000 per annum. Passed first reading and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Hammer: Bill to amend the revenue laws of the State, providing for the levying of one dollar on every taxable poll in the State, and on all taxable property a tax of thirty-five cents on the hundred dollars. Passed first reading and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Woodcock: Bill to amend the act regarding the publication of legal notices, by requiring such notices to be published in the paper having the largest circulation in the county wherein the notices are to be published; such paper to be designated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Passed first reading and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. Hedlin: Bill requiring Clerks and Masters of Chancery Courts to take the franchise oath. Passed first reading, and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

520: To exempt widow's dower from execution. Passed.

## HOUSE BILLS ON THIRD READING.

510: Appropriating \$5 annually for each child of a father who died or was killed in the service of the United States during the late war. Withdrawn for amendment.

440: By Mr. Cordell: For the benefit of millers, requiring every man to mark his sacks, for the purpose of preventing the loss of such articles when taken to mill. Ordered to be transmitted to the Senate.

## The Truth at Last.

A laughable yet historical incident occurred Wednesday at the Treasury Department. An officer of the War Department called for the purpose of obtaining a special deposit which had been left in a box in the treasurer's vaults. The supposed box was found, bearing Adjutant-General Townsend's mark and seal, and a locksmith sent for. After a great deal of trouble the box was opened, and the special deposit found to consist of an old scarf and water-proof cloak, with a letter from an officer of Wilson's cavalry division, certifying that they were the articles composing the female costume of the Hon. Jefferson Davis when captured. For over three years they have occupied a safe corner among Treasurer Spinner's gold, coupons and greenbacks.—*New York Times*. [This ought to settle it as a fact, that Mr. Davis, when captured, was not disguised in female apparel.]

"Liberty swung from John Brown's gallows." [New York Tribune.]

There are two points to be made here. It is a confession of sympathy with the crime of John Brown. It also amounts to a declaration that a lawless invader of a sovereign State, and a murderer in carrying out the invasion, is a martyr to liberty. John Brown committed several murders at Harper's Ferry, in his raid into Virginia nine years ago. He even murdered negroes who refused to join him. He was arrested, fairly tried, duly convicted, and justly hung. This, in Jacobin estimation, was a case of liberty swinging upon the gallows. These fellows are showing out the devil that's in them. Let them go on. The more the better. The sooner it will work its own cure.

[New York Democrat]

The Boston Advertiser, speaking of the men now confined in the Dry Tortugas on the charge of complicity in assassinating President Lincoln, says:

"Nobody ever conceived that Arnold was guilty of anything beyond the plot to abduct; there are grave doubts whether O'Laughlin, now dead, was implicated further than that, and the commission which tried them understood this fully or they would have been sentenced to the gallows, instead of for life at the Tortugas. Spangler, whose six years' term is now more than half expired, is undoubtedly an innocent man, knowing nothing of either plot; but everybody who ever examined the matter, except, President Johnson, became convinced of this long ago." The Alexandria Gazette adds to the above: "We believe Dr. Mudd to be entirely innocent. It is time that this outrage on justice and humanity should cease."

Ugly rumors are afloat in reference to the official conduct of the American Minister to Paraguay, Mr. Waburne. He is accused of encouraging the brutalities of Lopez. Nothing official has been received at the State Department.

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Sweetwater, November 26, 1868. 19